Post 1-4-75

Man Committed After Incident At White House

A 30-year-old Suitland man was committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital for mental observation yesterday after he allegedly tried to enter the White House grounds through a West Executive Avenue gate, a Secret Service spokesman said.

U.S. Park Police identified the man as Frank Winfield Cronkite, who has been charged with driving the wrong way on a one-way street and blocking the entrance to the White House. They said he refused to leave the driveway, which was blocked by another vehicle, and was taken into custody after allegedly making irrational statements.

Cronkite was driving a van-type vehicle when the incident occurred at 3:19 p.m., officials said.